

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A tag axle assembly includes an axle housing having first and second ends. A torque plate is fixed to each of the first and second ends for mounting a braking assembly. The torque plate is attached between front and rear plates of the axle housing. The tag axle assembly is fabricated by forming a substantially rectangular housing having open first and second ends and at least a partially open bottom portion. The torque plate is fixed at the open ends of a tubular housing that extends the entire length of the rectangular housing. The torque plates and the axle housing are secured to the housing and a center portion of the axle housing is cut away to provide for the drive shaft to extend through to the tag axle.